

For example, last month, on April 14th, Cameroon held its first Senatorial elections, fulfilling its Constitutional requirement to sit an upper house of its National Assembly. This new legislative body, which commenced its first session last week, reinforces the steps Cameroon has taken on its path to a full and vibrant democracy.

On the economic front, Cameroon has also made important strides on its road toward responsible development by joining the Kimberley Process and working toward validation under the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative. In January of this year, the Government approved the establishment of two new financial institutions to strengthen the financing of small and medium rural enterprises in Cameroon.

Mr. Speaker, it must also be noted that Cameroon also represents the collective African desire to enhance bilateral trade with the United States and last month, I cosponsored legislation that would do just that. Among other things, H.R. 1777 would create jobs in the United States by increasing U.S. exports to Africa by at least 200 percent in real dollar value within 10 years. This legislation complements the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA), a system that reinforces African reform efforts and provides improved U.S. market access for African countries.

African countries such as Cameroon benefit from AGOA in part because it helps build an economic foundation upon which a broader bilateral relationship can be built, and I urge my colleagues to support renewal of this important legislation before it expires in 2015.

While Cameroon continues to make measured progress, challenges remain. Nevertheless, I am encouraged by the engagement that exists between our two nations, as it will help the Government of Cameroon consolidate its democratic gains and economic growth, both of which create a brighter future for the people of Cameroon.

Once again, Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my best wishes to the people of Cameroon as they celebrate their National Day.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SCOTT DESJARLAIS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2013

Mr. DESJARLAIS. Mr. Speaker, at the conclusion of congressional business on Friday, May 17th, I was unable to cast three rollcall votes and voted erroneously on one amendment due in order to travel back to Tennessee in time to make it to my son's high school graduation ceremonies. On rollcall vote No. 157, Representative Hurt's amendment to H.R. 1062, I am recorded as not being present. I would like the record to show that I would have voted in favor of this amendment. Next, I mistakenly voted in favor of rollcall vote No. 158 thinking the vote was still open for the rollcall vote No. 157, and I would like the record to indicate I intended to vote against rollcall vote No. 158. Lastly, I would like the record to indicate that I would have voted against rollcall vote No. 159, the motion to recommit with instructions and would have voted in favor of rollcall vote No. 160, passage of H.R. 1062.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 20, 2013

Mr. LEWIS. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast rollcall votes on the afternoon of May 16th and all day on May 17th. Had I been present, I would have cast the following votes:

On rollcall 153, I would have voted "yes."
On rollcall 154, I would have voted "no."
On rollcall 155, I would have voted "no."
On rollcall 156, I would have voted "no."
On rollcall 157, I would have voted "no."
On rollcall 158, I would have voted "yes."
On rollcall 159, I would have voted "yes."
On rollcall 160, I would have voted "no."

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, May 21, 2013 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's record.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 22

9 a.m.
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Department of Defense
To hold closed hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2014 for the Army.

SD-192

9:30 a.m.
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2014 for the United States Forest Service.

SD-124

10 a.m.
Committee on Finance
To hold hearings to examine S. 662, to reauthorize trade facilitation and trade enforcement functions and activities.
SD-215
Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Business meeting to consider S. 959, to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to compounding drugs, S. 957, to amend

the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to the pharmaceutical distribution supply chain, the nominations of Mark Gaston Pearce, of New York, Richard F. Griffin, Jr., of the District of Columbia, Sharon Block, of the District of Columbia, Harry I. Johnson III, of Virginia, and Philip Andrew Miscimarra, of Illinois, all to be a Member of the National Labor Relations Board, and any pending nominations.

SD-430

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine performance management and congressional oversight, focusing on 380 recommendations to reduce overlap and duplication.

SD-342

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship
To hold hearings to examine how the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Education Pipeline can develop a high-skilled American workforce for small business, focusing on bridging the skills gap.

SR-428A

Joint Economic Committee
To hold hearings to examine the current economic outlook.

SD-G50

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations
Subcommittee on International Development and Foreign Assistance, Economic Affairs, International Environmental Protection, and Peace Corps
To hold hearings to examine different perspectives on international development.

SD-419

2 p.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold an oversight hearing to examine business practices of durable medical equipment companies.

SD-342

Special Committee on Aging
To hold hearings to examine the Medicare prescription drug program, focusing on 10 years later.

SD-366

2:30 p.m.

Committee on the Budget
To hold hearings to examine supporting broad-based economic growth and fiscal responsibility through tax reform.

SD-608

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Anthony Renard Foxx, of North Carolina, to be Secretary of Transportation.

SR-253

Committee on Environment and Public Works
Subcommittee on Water and Wildlife
To hold hearings to examine nutrient trading and water quality.

SD-406

MAY 23

9 a.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Allison M. Macfarlane, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

SD-406